

The .xxv. orders of Fooles,

Say a while with pacience, my friends if you pray,
Of the orders of Fooles, somewhat I wyll say:
Fine and twentie, iust a quarterne is ye know,
Euery Fole in his foolishnes wyll I shew.
And as the prouerbe doth shew very playne,
A hoo so; this fole, to kepe him from the rayne.

Many Fooles, the carte of sin now a dayes doth draw,
Rowling their sinne against all right and law:
Though that the way to hell be very playne,
Yet lyke a fole I aduise the to retorne agayne.
If thou in foolishnes still dost dwell,
Thou shalt haue a bable and a bell.

* He is a fole that his sinnes can not bate,
Naught young, worse olde, such is his estate:
This olde fole is glad of that name,
Desiring all men to take parte of the same.
This fole must haue in hand without fayle,
A bable, a bell, or els a for taylor.

Of Fooles, yet I fynd an other sorte,
Which are causers of lying, and yll reposte:
And he is a fole both euen and morow,
That nothing wyll lenth, but all thynges bozow.
And as the prouerbe doth shew very playne
A hoo so; this fole to kepe him from the rayne.

* Of Fooles, yet an other sorte doth come,
Which neuer seketh so; to haue wisdom:
Many such fooles, wisdom disdayne,
Yet so; their foolishnes they shall suffer payne.
And as the prouerbe doth shew very playne,
A hoo so; this fole, to kepe him from the rayne.

He is a fole which to others doth preach and tell,
And yet this fole is ready himself to go vnto hell:
Lye thou bynightly, be cause of no blame,
If thou do not, the more is thy shame.
And as the prouerbe doth say very playne,
A hoo so; this fole, to kepe him from the rayne.

* He is a fole, and euer be shall,
That others iudgeth, and himselfe woost of all:
This fole is blynd, frantike, and wode,
Without all reason, iudgeth bad thinges god.
And as the prouerbe doth shew very playne,
A hoo so; this fole, to kepe him from the rayne.

He is a fole that wisdom doth eschue,
For no god counsell can bring him to vertue:
This fole which scorneth his neighbour fast,
Shall be scorned iustly himself at the last.
And as the prouerbe doth shew very playne,
A hoo so; this fole, to kepe him from the rayne.

* An other fole yet, I doe here fynd,
Which can not kepe close the secrets of his mynd:
This is a naturall fole, and vndiscrete,
Which can not hyde his owne counsell and secrete.
And as the prouerbe doth shew very playne,
A hoo so; this fole, to kepe him from the rayne.

He is a fole, that in youth wyll not proude,
In age must be sterue, or in pouertie abyde:
This is a fole, and of the numbe one,
Which in the sommer can make no prouision.
And as the prouerbe doth shew very playne,
A hoo so; this fole, to kepe him from the rayne.

* He is a fole, that getteth his gods wrongfullpe,
For his heires after him, wyll spend it vntyftelpe:
This foles golde is his god, wrongfullpe got,
Whiche fole, thy golde is muk & clay, knowest thou not?
And as the prouerbe doth shew very playne,
A hoo so; this fole, to kepe him from the rayne.

He is a fole, whether he be man or wyfe,
Whiche still deliteth in discorde and stryfe:
Such foles their owne flesh to the bones may gnaw,
That contendeth in matters, scant worth a draw.
And as the prouerbe doth shew very playne,
A hoo so; this fole, to kepe him from the rayne.

* He is a fole that on message is sent,
And when he is on his way, forgot whether he went:
This fole is worthy of the bable and the bell,
For of all other fooles, he doth excell.
And as the prouerbe doth shew very playne,
A hoo so; this fole, to kepe him from the rayne.

Pet of Fooles, a whole dozen I haue espyed,
And lead in a stryng, together they are tyed:
These fooles you may know by their fauour,
For lyke the Aspen leafe, with euery wynd they wauer.
And as the prouerbe doth shew very playne,
A hoo so; these fooles, to kepe them from the rayne.

* He is a fole, that thinketh it great wonder,
When God stryketh by lightning and thunder:
Alas, we dayly without all dread commit
Such cursed vice, for lacke of godly wit.
And as the prouerbe doth shew very playne,
A hoo so; this fole, to kepe him from the rayne.

All youth, I doe lpen vnto Fooles blynd,
That vnto their Parents are rebels vnkynnd:
Thou vnkynnd chylde, and fole disobedient,
Remember what goods thy friends on thee spent.
And as the prouerbe doth shew very playne,
A hoo so; these fooles, to kepe them from the rayne.

* He is a fole, that greatly doth flatter and boast,
When he thinks least, he shall tast of the roost:
This fole at last, is cast out of fauour,
For flatterynge pleaseth no wise man of honour.
And as the prouerbe doth shew very playne,
A hoo so; this fole, to kepe him from the rayne.

He is a fole, and boyd of all prudence,
Which to vayne tales doth geue all his credence:
Therefore remember this both low and hye,
That flatterers speake saye when they do lye.
And as the prouerbe doth shew very playne,
A hoo so; this fole, to kepe him from the rayne.

* He is a naturall fole, and a very dawe,
That from doing good, his neighbour doth withdawe:
Such froward fooles, all goodnes they desile,
If their neighbours doe good, then they reuile.
And as the prouerbe doth shew very playne,
A hoo so; this fole, to kepe him from the rayne.

He is a fole, and greatly vnprionable,
That in all his doings he is vnfortunable:
But in his misfortune he is so blynd,
He neuer considereth no remedy in mynd.
And as the prouerbe doth shew very playne,
A hoo so; this fole to kepe him from the rayne.

* He is a fole, that himselfe doth applye
Bedyn his neighbours backe to sclander with enuye:
Such beastly fooles commonly are well a payd,
Which thinke all is well, that falsly is sayd.
And as the prouerbe doth shew very playne,
A hoo so; this fole, to kepe him from the rayne.

Pet more Fooles there be, which be vncommendable,
That vseth yll manners alway at the table:
Of pleasant nourtour they haue no hede,
But beastly entend as swyne alway to fede.
And as the prouerbe doth shew very playne,
A hoo so; these fooles, to kepe them from the rayne.

* Many Fooles there be, in these our dayes,
Which seeme to be wyse, yet folow foolish wayes:
Therefore I haue tolde vnto you very playne,
What foolishnes in these dayes in many doth remayne.
And as the prouerbe doth shew very playne,
A hoo so; these fooles, to kepe them from the rayne.

He is a fole, that wyll still desyre
His owne death, to runne in to the fyre:
And he is a fole, that hath no mynd deuoute,
But in the temple still walketh aboute.
And as the prouerbe doth shew very playne,
A hoo so; these fooles to kepe them from the rayne.

* GOD grant that all Fooles wisdom may learne,
And that they may god from yll alway discerne:
Then no more fooles we may them call,
But wyse men, and wisdom shew they shall.
God grant that on all partes we may now begin
To repent of our follye, and fye from our sin.

FINIS. q. d. Cr.

* Imprinted at London by Alexander Lacie,
for Henrie Bygham, dwelling at the signe of the
blacke Boye: at the middle North
doore of Paules church.